

8th Grade Week 7 Notes

Stamp Act

- *Britain saw the colonies as a place to make money
- *Issued Sugar Act - taxation on sugar
- *Colonists upset because they argued that since they didn't have a voice in parliament, they shouldn't be taxed (TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION)
- *Most colonists refused to pay the tax, smuggled in goods instead
 - This made parliament angry, enacted the Stamp Act
 - Stamp Act put tax on printed materials
 - Put a stamp on all printed materials
- *Stamp Act still made colonists angry because the money would all go to Britain

The Townshend Duties

- *1767 Townshend puts taxes on the most popularly imported items
 - Indirect tax (not placed directly on people), so most weren't concerned
- *Colonial leaders tried to stir up anger for support for their side
 - They thought people should care more
- *Many colonists didn't appreciate the British troops stationed in their owns
- *1770 Colonists antagonized British, 5 Bostonians killed in "Boston Massacre"
 - Same day parliament repealed all taxes except on tea

Boston Tea Party

- *In Mass. the royal governor decided to "show Americans who was in authority"
 - Ordered tea ships to sit in the harbor
- *1773 50 **Sons of Liberty** dressed up as Native Americans and dumped hundreds of chests full of tea into the harbor
- *Not everyone was excited about the Boston Tea Party (Ben Franklin)
- *Because of the Americans actions they lost all support in parliament
- *Britain passed a series of acts to help keep the colonists in check

Political

- *"Enlightenment" started desire to form democratic government in the colonies
- ***John Locke** wrote 2 Treatises of Government
 - Free expression of religion, thought
 - Didn't believe in the "divine right" of kings and queens to rule over others
 - Civil rulers get their power from the people they are governing**
- ***Thomas Paine** wrote "**Common Sense**" and helped stir up a sense of nationalism
 - Declared that government should come from popular consent
 - America had an obligation to the world to become an independent and democratic society
 - Inspired patriots to embrace new ideas of free society

Social

- *Enlightenment diminished strict religious structure
- *Most states decreased their support for religious institutions

- * John Locke thought women should be entitled to an equal voice in voting on issues
- * **Abigail Adams** hoped the Revolution would bring equal opportunities for women
 - Encouraged her husband to “remember the ladies”
- * **Women gained more educational opportunities**
- * **Created an environment for reform and producing social change**